



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

# Weekly Weather Crop Report



National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week ending May 11, 2008

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, May 11, 2008**. Row crop planting continued to be stalled this week as widespread rain showers made their way through the State. While many producers are already behind schedule for the season, several days of dry weather are needed before fieldwork can resume. In contrast, producers in South Mississippi took advantage of seasonable dry conditions and continued with cool-season hay harvest, as well as, spraying of pastures and hayfields. Soil moisture was rated 7 percent very short, 19 percent short, 53 percent adequate and 21 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 05/11/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, planted	99	98	100	100
Corn, emerged	95	93	100	97
Cotton, planted	21	14	61	72
Cotton, emerged	12	5	28	51
Hay-Cool Season, harvested	43	30	55	52
Peanuts, planted	35	12	24	12
Rice, planted	81	72	93	92
Rice, emerged	67	54	78	78
Sorghum, planted	47	43	77	89
Sorghum, emerged	42	35	54	76
Soybeans, planted	65	56	83	85
Soybeans, emerged	50	37	63	71
Watermelons, planted	93	88	96	91
Winter Wheat, heading	100	97	100	99

Crop condition for week ending 05/11/08

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Blueberries	0	3	13	53	31
Corn	0	4	26	59	11
Livestock	4	8	31	45	12
Pasture	5	8	31	44	12
Winter Wheat	1	6	25	48	20

## Comments

“Rain and cool soil are keeping us out of the cotton fields. We need about 10 days of dry weather before field work can begin.”

— Stephen R. Winters Grenada

“Pastures are doing well with the frequent rain showers. Producers are having difficulty harvesting cool season grasses for hay due to the rainfall every four to five days. Spring pasture transition is very slow due to cooler temperatures and reduced fertilizer applications. Some herd liquidations are taking place due to high input costs while other producers are holding fall born calves for higher market prices.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“Rains have again halted planting efforts. Most producers are behind for the season because of wet conditions. Gardens are more plentiful this spring because of expected price increases.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“It has been dry this past week with producers hoping to get rain this upcoming week. Pastures are in transition from winter to summer pasture so grazing is running short. Corn is looking good and cotton planting will resume this week. Vegetable crops are looking good.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

(Additional comments appear at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>)

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Cooperative  
Extension Service  
Dr. Vance H. Watson, Interim Director

Southern Regional Climate Center  
Louisiana State University  
Dr. Kevin Robbins  
Director

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural  
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO  
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

“Continued heavy rain will keep growers out of the field. We were not able to do any field work last week. Storms damaged farm buildings and caused more flooding on Friday night.”

— Don Respess, Coahoma

“Producers got a couple of days of field work on well drained fields before rain shut them down again. We need two weeks of dry weather.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Heavy rains pelted our area the latter part of the week stopping all field work again. Some fields were just getting dried out enough to make more progress on planting. Wheat is heading good, but still needs sunshine to fill out the seed heads.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Weekend rains have once again delayed planting activities.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“It has been another week with wet weather. Most fields are too wet for any field work.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Field work has not been possible for much of the week due to excessive moisture. Some areas of the county have not missed a shower, some which dropped as much as 2" of rainfall.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Livestock producers were spraying pastures and hayfields last week trying to get some weeds killed before they got too mature. Some ryegrass has been harvested this past week with no rain on it. Several fields of hybrid Bermuda have been harvested as well. Some wildlife enthusiasts have been planting summer annual food plots this past week.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“About one inch of rain was received during the week with no storm damage to report. Soybean planting continues. Summer pastures are beginning to grow, but winter weed pressure is still heavy.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“The frost has damaged blueberries and wheat, especially those near the river areas. Those on higher elevation came through fine or with very little damage.”

— Carolyn Conger, Covington

“Producers have baled more cool-season hay than in past years as a result of rainfall and good growing conditions. Corn and watermelons are recovering from late season frost. Seasonable weather without rainfall has allowed producers into the fields.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Cool-season hay harvest continues with excellent yields. High bush blueberries are being harvested. Cattle are in good condition. Corn is in good condition.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

“Most producers have used the nice weather over the past week to harvest cool-season hay. Vegetables, row crops, and pastures could use some rain. Farm ponds are beginning to have problems with aquatic weeds.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

“We have gotten some good reports on ryegrass hay cuttings; the cool spell seems to have helped.”

— Judith Breland, Stone

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Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/11/08													
Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Plan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
<b>Upper Delta</b>													
Cleveland	87	50	69	69		0.78	-0.36	2	5.13				
Lambert	88	51	70			4.37	3.06	3	9.49				
Extreme/Average	88	50	70	69	1	2.58	1.35	3	7.31				
<b>North-Central</b>													
Calhoun City	87	46	68	67	1	2.17	0.91	3	6.56				
Hickory Flat	84	43	65	66	-1	5.12	3.86	3	9.93				
Independence	82	45	65	66	-1	2.99	1.78	3	9.20				
Oxford	85	45	67	66	1	2.42	1.14	3	6.71				
Extreme/Average	87	43	66	66		3.18	1.92	3	8.10				
<b>Northeast</b>													
Pontotoc Exp	85	47	68	67	1	1.58	0.36	3	5.14				
Ripley	84	44	66	65	1	2.12	0.86	2	6.28				
Tupelo	86	49	68			0.61		2	3.83				
Verona	86	48	68	67	1	1.73	0.61	4	4.97				
Extreme/Average	86	44	68	66	2	1.51	0.61	3	5.06				
<b>Lower Delta</b>													
Moorhead	85	52	69	70	-1	1.09	-0.17	2	5.48				
Rolling Fork	90	51	70	70		0.42	-0.82	3	3.35				
Stoneville	85	53	70	70		0.37	-0.89	3	0.99				
Yazoo City	88	48	68	70	-2	0.10	-1.23	1	4.07				
Extreme/Average	90	48	69	70	-1	0.50	-0.78	2	3.47				
<b>Central</b>													
Canton	89	47	68	70	-2	0.02	-1.38	1	3.91				
Eupora	87	45	66	67	-1	0.42	-0.77	1	4.13				
Kosciusko	87	48	68	68		0.09	-1.22	1	5.33				
Winona	85	45	66	65	1	0.61	-0.58	1	5.19				
Extreme/Average	89	45	67	68	-1	0.61	-0.58	1	4.64				
<b>East-Central</b>													
Aberdeen	86	48	68	67	1	1.90	0.64	2	5.76				
Macon 3N	88	49	70	68	2	0.19	-0.87	1	2.74				
State University	87	48	70	68	2	0.52	-0.65	2	5.98				
Extreme/Average	87	48	69	68	1	0.87	-0.29	2	4.83				
<b>Southwest</b>													
Crystal Springs	90	51	71	70	1	0.22	-0.91	1	2.65				
Port Gibson 1NE	89	49	68	68	0		-1.29		3.90				
Vicksburg	88	55	71			0.15		2	2.90				
Extreme/Average	90	49	70	69	1	0.12	-1.10	1	3.15				
<b>South-Central</b>													
Collins	89	52	70	69	1		-1.39		3.10				
Columbia	90	53	72	71	1		-1.30		4.84				
Raleigh 6N	88	46	69						3.25				
Extreme/Average	90	46	70	70			-1.35		3.73				
<b>Southeast</b>													
Beaumont	88	49	69										
Hattiesburg	88	53	71	71			-1.26	0	2.83				
Laurel	89	51	71	70	1		-1.26		2.49				
Extreme/Average	89	49	70	71	-1		-1.26		2.66				
<b>Coastal</b>													
Data Missing													
Extreme/Average													
<b>State</b>	90	43	69	68	1	1.00	-0.21	2	4.77				

DFN = Departure from Normal.